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VOL. VI NO. 143

MONDAY, APRIL 20, 1981 JAMAD AL-TRANI 16, 1401 A.H.

SIXTEEN PAGES - TWO RIVALS



OFFICIAL VISIT: British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher with Crown Prince Fahd soon after her arrival in Riyadh Sunday. Pictures show (top left): the prime minister with Crown Prince Fahd after she disembarked from the plane; (bottom left): standing at attention as the national anthems of both countries are played; (top right): sipping the traditional coffee; (bottom right): shaking hands with the government officials.

In Afghanistan

Heavy fighting breaks out

By Shahid Oraizi
Arab News Correspondent

QUETTA, Pakistan, April 19 — Heavy fighting was reported Sunday between the government troops and about a 1,000 Afghan mujahideen for the control of southern city of Kandahar, according to reliable sources. The sources told *Arab News* that Soviets had used helicopters for transporting tanks to the provincial city of Kandahar after a Soviet military division which left Kabul on April 14 as reinforcement met resistance on its way southward. The sources said this was the first time after bipolar crisis that Soviets had used helicopters for armor reinforcements.

Information received on a wireless set of the *Mujahideen* Sunday morning also said fierce fighting was going around the governor's house and the provincial offices of education and finance ministries in downtown Kandahar. Mortars and rocket launchers were being used by the freedom fighters and a number of armor vehicles were rendered unserviceable.

After being hit by rocket launchers, the information given from a suburb of Kandahar said smoke was rising from different points in the city and the governor's house was reportedly demolished by the heavy mortar fire.

The sources said that the rebels had also removed important documents from the governor's house and some other government offices. The normal life in the city was completely paralysed during the last four days, which saw the biggest-ever mutiny against Russian occupation.

Meanwhile, a Soviet division which left Kabul on April 14 with about 600 military vehicles, including tanks and armored cars was yet to reach the troubled city. However, about 60 gunships, part of this division, were ready to deliver reinforcements to troops in Kandahar.

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Returns to Amman

Marwan ends Gulf tour

AMMAN, April 19 (Agencies) — Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan Qassem returned here Sunday after visiting Kuwait and Bahrain where he briefed officials on the talks King Hussein had with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig recently.

The broadcast monitored here did not identify the trio but said they were followers of Burhanuddin Rabbani, leader of the Pakistan-based Jamiat Islami group. It said the three included two men and a woman.

The incident followed last month's successful hijacking of a Pakistani domestic jetliner by three gunmen who commanded the aircraft to Kabul, and then Damascus.

Radio Kabul said Kandahar authorities became suspicious of the woman and before she would board a Kabul-bound flight, detained her and her two male accomplices. She was found carrying a hand grenade and the men had pistols, it said.

They later, "confessed" to having planned to seize control of the plane and force it to land in Quetta, capital of Pakistan's Baluchistan province, about 200 km to the southeast, the state-controlled radio said. It quoted the trio assaying that once the plane had been hijacked, Rabbani was to announce a list of demands for the aircraft's release. A spokesman for the Jamiat Islami, reached by telephone in Peshawar said Rabbani was in Lahore and declined to comment on the subject.

In Bahrain informed sources said the letters reiterated Jordan's opposition to the American administration's conception of the priorities in the Middle East as expressed by Haig. Jordan's view is that the main danger to the Arab world comes from the Zionist state, and the danger of Soviet expansionism is not at the top list from the Arab point of view.

Meanwhile, Qatar's Interior Minister Sheikh Khaled Ben Hamad Althani, left Amman for Qatar after a week's visit to Jordan. "There is no real danger in the Gulf as long as there is no foreign interference in Gulf affairs," the minister told reporters prior to his departure.

Abu Dhabi cuts crude production

ABU DHABI, April 19 (AFP) — The Emir of Abu Dhabi has cut crude production by 80,000 barrels a day, compared to average output figures for last year, a report from the Emirate's oil department said Sunday.

The disclosure about the extent of the reduction came as oil producers generally are facing an oil glut and as nations not belonging to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) were reported to have increased production last year. The report said that the Emirates cut output at their Abu Dhabi oil field twice last year. The reductions were ordered as part of a program to conserve national wealth, the report said.

It added that output last year averaged 1,354,000 barrels a day, while daily production was put at 1,274,000 barrels early this year. An oil industry source here said that oil-consuming countries have adopted a joint stand toward producing countries, especially

The Jordanian monarch was also reported to have rejected the idea of the Arab world becoming a party of the American-Soviet confrontation.

Qassem was also reported to have told Kuwaiti and Bahraini officials of renewed American attempts to include Jordan in the Camp David agreements, attempts which were firmly rejected. Haig was told that Jordan considered the Camp David process to be at an end and that the agreements between Egypt and Israel do not tackle the heart of the Middle East crisis. Jordan, Haig was told, does not reject attempts at a peaceful settlement provided they came within the right framework, which is that of the United Nations.

Meanwhile, Qatar's Interior Minister Sheikh Khaled Ben Hamad Althani, left Amman for Qatar after a week's visit to Jordan. "There is no real danger in the Gulf as long as there is no foreign interference in Gulf affairs," the minister told reporters prior to his departure.

Some observers believe that talks now underway between Western Europe and Japan on one hand, and Kuwait and Qatar on the other, for delivery of an additional 350,000 barrels will be a test of strength.

Low output levels earlier this year were in line with daily crude production of 24.7 million barrels by all OPEC countries — the lowest level in several years. These cuts were intended to counter the current oil glut.

Kuwait cut production by 23.5 per cent, Nigeria by 10.7 per cent and Venezuela by eight per cent during 1980. Drops in Libyan and Syrian crude output were also considerable. While the world's daily oil production was generally down to 157.8 million barrels a day during this period, Saudi Arabia has increased its production since the end of 1980, from 9.5 million barrels a day to 10.3 million barrels.

Divorce report on Danish queen angers court

COPENHAGEN, April 19 (AFP) — Court officials in Denmark reacted angrily Sunday to a British newspaper report that Queen Margrethe's 14-year marriage to Prince Henrik is on the rocks.

Marshall of the court Hans Soelvhoj said that Wednesday's *Daily Express* story was "gherish from start to finish."

The paper's gossip columnist had reported "excited chatter among Copenhagen's courtes that the once so-called fairy-tale mar-

riage of Queen Margrethe and her French-born husband is about to end in divorce." It was no secret that the couple lived not only in separate bedrooms but in separate wings of the Copenhagen Royal Palace, columnist William Hickey said.

"The problem would appear to have begun in January 1972 when Margrethe succeeded her father King Frederik, and Henrik had great difficulty playing a secondary role," Hickey wrote.

King receives Thatcher; talks resume today

By a Staff Writer

RIYADH, April 19 — King Khaled Sunday received British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and later at night gave a dinner party in her honor. Both functions were attended by Crown Prince Fahd; Prince Abdullah, second deputy premier and commander of the National Guard; Prince Sultan, the defense minister, and a large number of princes, ministers and dignitaries.

The prime minister, who arrived here Sunday from India on a three-day official visit, was welcomed at the airport by Prince Fahd. She will hold official talks Monday with Prince Fahd and afterward pay a visit to the Planning Ministry for a briefing by Minister Hisban Nazer on the progress of the current five-year development program.

She will also attend a British businessman lunch at Qasr Al Riyad Hotel and will be host to a dinner party by Crown Prince Fahd. Before leaving for the airport Mrs. Thatcher will give a press conference.

British Ambassador James Craig said the visit is an "exploratory one" aimed at realizing a number of goals in the interest of both countries. He said Mrs. Thatcher would like to acquaint herself with the viewpoints of Saudi Arabian leaders on the Middle East problem and issues of mutual interest. The visit will also emphasize his country's desire and great expectations for enhancing the cooperation between the two countries.

The Ambassador in London Sheikh Nasser Al Manqor said the visit will have a great impact on promoting bilateral relations. Britain will be playing a positive role in devising a European initiative for a peaceful settlement on the Middle East issues. Economic relations were excellent and improving rapidly, he said.

British exports to Saudi Arabia increased 17 per cent last year to \$2.5 billion. About 90 per cent of those exports were manufactured goods, machinery, transportation equipment, and chemicals. There are about 35,000 Britons and 381 British firms with a stake in the Saudi Arabian import market.

Mrs. Thatcher's visit is also expected to be a boost to trade, particularly military sales.

The Iron lady, as the Soviet Union has called her, looked slightly apprehensive as she stepped from a VC-10 airliner into the Kingdom. But she relaxed after a handshake and warm smile from Crown Prince Fahd and after a salute from a guard of honor.

Mrs. Thatcher wore a hat matching her long dress and fabric flowing from it gave the slightest symbolic hint of a veil. Queen Elizabeth two years ago dressed similarly.

Only a small crowd of onlookers gathered at the airport when Mrs. Thatcher arrived. The British embassy arranged visits for her husband, Denis Thatcher, to see oil installations and an insecticide plant while she holds a salute from a guard of honor.

Mrs. Thatcher was joined in Riyadh by her Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Douglas Hurd.

Western diplomats said the crown prince is expected to stress to her in later formal talks the urgent need for progress in settling the Arab-Israeli dispute. In subsequent talks with Saudi Arabian ministers she was expected to promote the 10-nation European Community initiative on the Middle East which would eventually involve the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in peace talks.

After Saudi Arabia, Mrs. Thatcher will visit the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Oman. The week-long tour of the Gulf states will be the first by a British prime minister.

Earlier the prime minister discussed bilateral and international issues with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The two prime ministers, the world's two most powerful statesmen, twice met privately in the Indian capital. They discussed world problems during their first meeting, and India

British relations, "a topic dominated by the controversial British nationality bill," at their second meeting.

The bill, now before parliament, would define three classes of British citizenship. India has bitterly attacked the measure as racist and designed to curtail immigration. Six economic agreements also were signed by the two countries during Mrs. Thatcher's visit.

Meanwhile, Douglas Hurd has called on PLO and Israel to make concessions to help secure a settlement to the Middle East conflict, the Beirut newspaper *As-Safir* said Sunday. It quoted the British minister of state for foreign affairs as saying in an interview that all sides involved should show some movement.

But he said there was little prospect of an initiative by EEC crystallizing before the summer.

SR5.7b U contract signed

By Nigel Harvey

RIYADH, April 19 — The final SR5.7 billion contract to build Riyadh University's academic cores has been signed with a U.S.-French joint venture, ending years of negotiations and redesign, university officials said Sunday.

The university said the contract had been signed on Saturday with the \$545 million joint venture between Bouygues of Paris and Blount of Montgomery, Alabama, which had been the lowest bidder when the job was first tendered several years ago. Originally designed for 25,000 students, the new 9 square kilometer campus on the Diriyah road north of Riyadh is the world's largest built from scratch.

The campus will now cater for some 18,000 students including 3,000 graduates and may be ready for the academic year beginning September 1984 if the 44 month worldwide building job progresses smoothly, project sources said. Considerable campus work has already been done for site preparation, housing, sports facilities and a central services complex, they said.

The joint venture's contract is solely for the academic core including a student center, a 2 million book library and administrative buildings forming a nucleus. Around them will be colleges of education, administrative sciences, sciences, engineering, agriculture, arts, pharmacy and dentistry, a media center, lecture halls and a dining room. A medical faculty is being separately built.

The campus, designed by a U.S.-British joint venture, HOK — 4, is expected to be both beautiful and extraordinarily well equipped. A 5,000 person mosque has been designed already and is expected to be separately built before the major building finishes.

The university said Sunday it was now fully satisfied with the joint venture's construction arrangements. A large subcontract had been awarded to a Korean consortium, but it has been renegotiated and a separate subcontract is to be awarded for technically complicated mechanical and electrical work which had been included in the original Korean subcontract. The university said the joint venture partners would supervise Korean laborers erecting prefabricated concrete units to be manufactured on site under a separate SR 1 billion contract.

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Riyadh expo termed successful

Agriculture shows to increase

By a Staff Writer

RIYADH, April 19 — Agricultural exhibitions will be held periodically in Saudi Arabia, Dr. Abdo Saud Al-Mash'had, the dean of Riyadh University's faculty of agriculture and general

supervisor of exhibitions has told Arab News.

The decision was prompted by the success of the third two-week exhibition held here recently under the auspices of the faculty of agriculture and a number of private and government firms. The exhibition

had been opened by Riyadh Deputy Governor Prince Sutut who stressed that such exhibitions help the citizen acquaint himself with the agricultural advancement in his country and the latest farming equipment.

Mash'had said Saturday that the agricultural sector is gaining more and more importance in Saudi Arabia as a result of the population's growing need for foodstuffs and the national industries' primary goods requirements during the Kingdom's overall development boom.

The agricultural sector greatly developed in the past few years as a result of new methods being followed for vertical and horizontal expansion. The introduction of new methods aims at diversifying the sources of national income and raising the farmers' living standard. A certain degree of self-sufficiency has been attained, lessening the need to import certain agricultural items, the official said.

In another development, five studies have been presented to the National Center for Science and Technology by the Faculty of Agriculture of Riyadh University. One of them is connected with the designing of canals, as well as the distribution and planning of Jizan Valley Irrigation Projects. *Al-Riyadh* newspaper reported. The report said the study has



(Arab News photo)

EXHIBITION: Palm trees line the driveway to the agriculture exhibition held in Riyadh recently. The show was held to introduce farmers to the latest methods and machinery for agriculture.

COMMENT

By Muhammad Al-Wazzan
Al-Bilad

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is visiting this region for the first time, and it is likely to play a positive role in evolving a realistic stance on the issues of the region, mainly the issue of Palestine. It is hoped that the outcome of her talks will give a new spur to the British policy toward these issues.

Although London's stance on the issues of this region is well-known, it is hoped that the personal view of the British prime minister would be in support of Arab stances, especially in regard to confrontation of any attempts made by the big powers under such pretexts as the preservation of peace and stability of the region. She will hear in mind that the leaders of the Gulf region have said time and again that the security of the region is the prime concern of the Gulf states themselves. Meanwhile, political observers emphasize

that the British role in the region is not so much centered on the political aspects as on economic interests. It is so because the reinforcement of economic relations and a correct understanding of its dimensions would be instrumental in the revival of the British economy. Some political analysts also say that London does not want to see Communist domination of any part of the Gulf region and, therefore, continues to denounce the Soviet role in Afghanistan.

In view of the changing situations in the world, it is easy to surmise that London is anxious to play a basic role, so it can employ its policy to serve the country's economy. Although Mrs. Thatcher's economic program has achieved some success, it is yet to give the government a feeling of complete success. The Gulf region, with its enormous economic wealth, would prevail upon Britain to support its issues out of a total conviction that the region has a significant role to play at the world level.

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Kingdom, Bahrain hold customs talks

DHAHRAN, April 19 (SPA) — A three-day meeting of the Technical Committee on Customs between Saudi Arabia and Bahrain opened here Saturday evening. Abdul Karim Al-Nasser, director of tariffs and barriers at the Customs Department is leading the Saudi delegation, while Khalil Al-Mutawwee,

director of customs, is leading the Bahraini side.

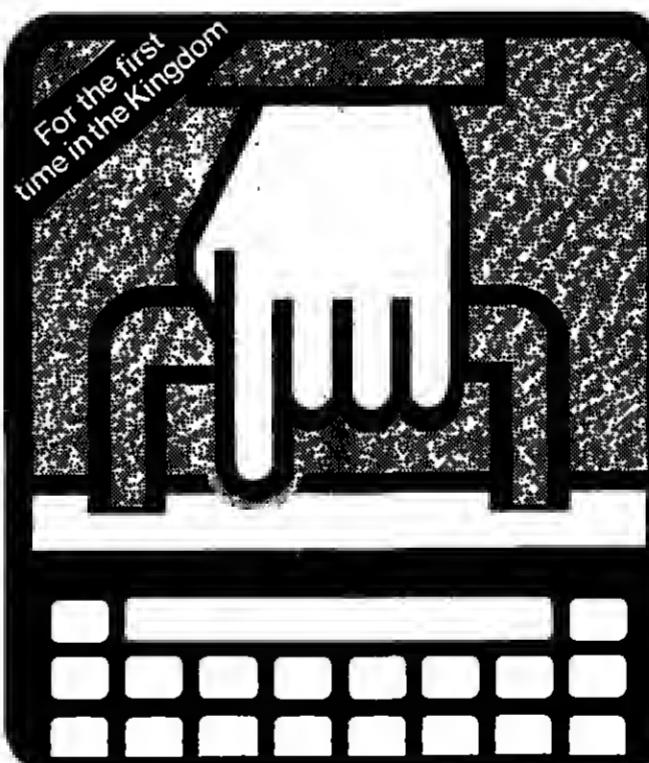
High on the agenda is coordination between the two countries' customs departments, the unification of customs procedures, import methods and related customs, the standardization of forms to be filled for the import and

export of products between the two countries, the exchange of data on the shipment of goods and the various types of smuggling. Other topics to be discussed include the shipment of commodities between the two countries and the possibility of training of Bahraini customs officials in Saudi Arabia.

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Whilst the exhibition takes place at the Al-Dhiafa Exhibition Centre, the Conference, the theme of which is "Uses of Educational Technology" takes place at the Intercontinental Hotel on 27th and 28th April 1981.

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Majed asks for study on foreign labor

MAKKAH, April 19 (SPA) — Makkah Governor Prince Majed has called on the chambers of commerce and industry to study the causes of the defection of foreign labor and their effects on the labor in particular and on the economy in general.

Speaking at a businessmen party here Saturday night the prince blamed some nationals for the defection, and said that foreign expatriates were encouraged by the cover given to them by some nationals.

He dwelt on state assistance to encourage trade and industry and lauded the high standard of local products. He said that part of the success was due to the chambers of commerce in various parts of the Kingdom, which helped remove obstacles in the way of commerce, industry and agriculture.

On other subjects, Prince Majed said that land was for sale 25 kilometers from here for the construction of warehouses. Requests will soon have to be submitted to Makkah Municipality.

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Sporadic fighting in Beirut

Rightist shelling hits 30 in Sidon

BERUT, April 19 (Agencies) — At least 10 persons were killed or wounded in Sidon Sunday when Maj. Saad Haddad's right-wing Christian militia shelled the center of the town, correspondents reported.

One shell fell outside a cafe on a main street, injuring over 20 persons and killing at least one, the reports said. The town was badly damaged and shops were burning in the main commercial area, the sources said. They added that shops had quickly closed their shutters and streets were deserted.

Earlier Sunday, a heavy artillery clash erupted between the rightist militia entrenched along the Israeli border and nationalist-Palestinian units in their stronghold at Nahatiyah.

Rightwing sources said three Lebanese militiamen were killed and one was seriously wounded when their half-track struck a land

Insistence by PNC

'PLO only should allocate funds'

DAMASCUS, April 19 (R) — The Palestinian parliament-in-exile has insisted that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) should have sole responsibility for allocating funds to the occupied territories, a function hitherto shared with Jordan.

A joint PLO-Jordanian coordination committee was set up at an Arab summit in Baghdad in 1978 to send money to Palestinians in the occupied territories for aid projects, military operations and other purposes. But a recommendation adopted Saturday by the Palestine National Council (PNC) spoke of "the determining role of the PLO in the joint coordination committee."

It said the organization had "sole responsibility for supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, and for deciding how the money allocated for their solidarity be spent."

If urged the PLO leadership to press Arab states at future Arab summits to put support funds at the sole disposal of the PLO.

But the recommendation called on the Jordanian authorities to provide administrative facilities needed for getting the funds to their destination, Palestinian sources said the

mine west of Marjayoun Sunday. The incident was inside the enclave controlled by Haddad, the sources said.

According to nationalist-Palestinian sources, the Israeli army recently also set up a helicopter base close to Marjayoun. Sunday's reports from the region added that a unit of Haddad's militia had kidnapped three shepherds from the nearby U.N.-controlled zone Saturday night, taking them to the militia's border enclave.

In Beirut, sporadic firing continued Sunday after the suburb of Ashrafieh came under heavy shelling overnight.

The besieged city of Zahle was meanwhile said to be calm for the first time in weeks. In a related development, Syria's Foreign Minister Abdul-Halim Khaddam said Saturday that Syria opposes attempts to involve the United Nations in the crisis in Lebanon.

Insistence by PNC

PNC appeared to have reached a compromise on the issue under pressure from hardliners demanding PLO withdrawal from the committee with Jordan.

Some sources speculated that the Amman government would not accept a resolution which deprived it of any say in the spending of the money, while expecting "administrative facilities."

Radical speakers at the PNC session, which began here on April 11, barely criticised Jordan, accusing it of preventing the PLO from functioning politically or militarily on its territory. They have also accused Jordan's King Hussein of moving toward a deal with Israel on the West Bank, an allegation repeatedly denied by the monarch.

Meanwhile, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) has rejoined the PNC Executive committee after a seven-year boycott. "Our return to the PLO executive committee is a step on the road toward unity," spokesman said. "We support the inclusion of all commando organizations in the committee because we all fight in one trend against a common enemy (Israel), he added.

In an interview published by the Syrian News Agency SANA, Khaddam said Syria and the majority of Lebanese and Arabs opposed attempts to internationalize the Lebanese crisis.

These attempts were "aimed at establishing a sectarian statelet that would justify the Zionist concept of establishing the racist Jewish state in Palestine." France and the United States considered sending some form of international force to take over peacekeeping duties in Lebanon from the all-Syrian Arab Deterrent Force (ADF), but have now apparently dropped the idea in the face of Arab opposition.

Khaddam said the U.N. peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon had been unable to prevent Israel from occupying part of the area or imposing control through Haddad.

He described the French initiative as "the biggest insult to some of our Lebanese brothers" and said it was aimed at "making then a protectorate of this or that state." The flare-up in Beirut and Zahle was linked with the Middle East tour this month by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, he said.

Three Mauritanians sentenced to death

ALGIERS, April 19 (R) — A military court sentenced three Mauritanians to death in their absence for taking part in the abortive military coup in Nouakchott last month, the Algerian News Agency reported from the Mauritanian capital.

It identified them Saturday as Haba Ould Muhammad Vall, his brother Mahmoud Ould Muhammad Vall, and Ahmad N'Diak. They were accused of helping a group of dissident Mauritanian officers who tried to take over the presidential palace and other official buildings March 16.

Four coup leaders were executed last month after being sentenced to death by a military court. The Mauritanian government has accused Morocco of masterminding the attempted coup and broken diplomatic relations. Morocco has denied any involvement.

On Middle East

American Arabs condemn TV film

WASHINGTON, April 19 — The Palestine Congress of North America (PNCA) has condemned ABC's television feature "Terrorism in the Middle East" aired April 2 as the most biased program ever shown on American television. This has been done with a malicious intention of antagonizing American public opinion toward the Palestinian people, PNCA said in a statement.

It said the program will have a negative effect on building a genuine understanding of the problems in the Middle East which is essential for a real peace in the area. PNCA and other Arab-American and human rights organizations in the United States, including the Association of Arab American University Graduates and American Arab Discrimination Committee, have joined together in demanding equal time to reply to the ACB feature's distortions, misinformation and biased perspectives.

PNCA said that the producers of the feature never cared to interview any Palestinian or Lebanese victims of Israel's "preemptive strikes" in South Lebanon while portraying a fact that Palestinian freedom fighters were painted as terrorists and as many as 50 such references were made about

Ben Bella back in Algiers

ALGIERS, April 19 (R) — Ahmed Ben Bella, first president of independent Algeria, has returned to live in Algiers as an ordinary citizen 16 years after he was overthrown in a bloodless coup by the late Houari Boumedienne.

Ben Bella had settled with his wife, their three adopted children and some other relatives in a modest house in the hills south of Algiers. He had spent 14 years in detention without trial and 15 months more in restricted custody before restrictions on freedom were withdrawn last October 9. Previously, he had spent seven years in French jails for his revolutionary activities when Algeria was under French rule.

BRIEFS

KUWAIT. (AFP) — Indonesia's Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumahadja arrived here Sunday from the United Arab Emirates on a three-day visit. Mochtar, who is on the sixth leg of a Gulf tour, will discuss with Kuwaiti officials the boosting of bilateral relations and the latest developments on the international scene.

CAIRO, (AFP) — Nearly 300 mummies have been dug up in the Egyptian desert, giving archaeologists their most important find since the 1922 discovery of the tomb of boy-king Tutankhamun, press reports said Sunday.

them, whereas the attacking Israelis were portrayed as fulfilling their responsibilities to their country.

PNCA also objected to the interjection of unsubstantiated opinion by correspondent Gerald Rivero into the narrative such as that "without question" a Palestinian state would have a large "debt to the Soviet Union" and thus would be a "revolutionary government and a threat to the region". It added that a lot of incorrect information of the above kind had been given as facts.

PNCA cited the case of the death of Phalangist leader Gamayel's daughter. The

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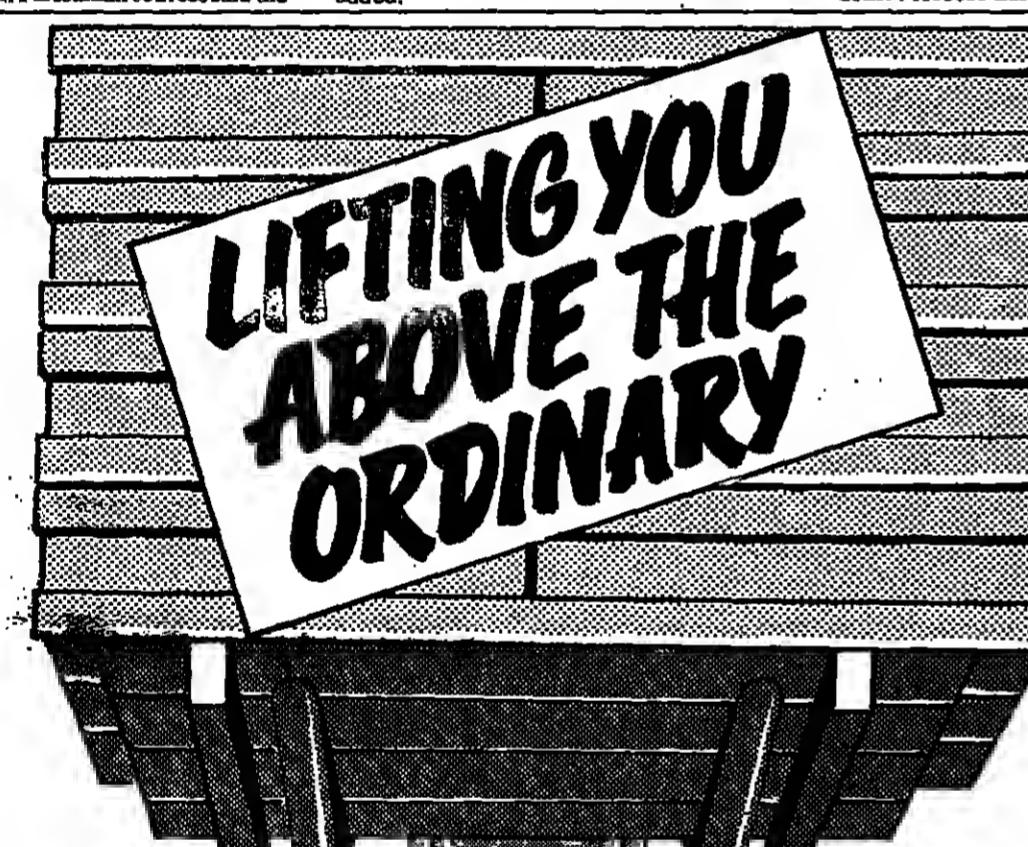
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arab news

THE ARAB NEWS IS A POLITICAL AND FINANCIAL NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHED BY SAUDI RESEARCH AND MARKETING COMPANY

Publisher HISHAM ALI HAFIZ
MOHAMMAD ALI HAFIZ
Editor in Chief MOHAMMAD M. AL-SHIBANI
General Manager SAUD ALI HAFIZ

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U.S. AND SOUTH AFRICA

Africa's black states are convinced that President Reagan stands on the side of the white supremacist regime of South Africa, a conviction which Washington has done little to challenge. Now, however, Reagan has sent an emissary to Africa, with the task of finding out the views of the black states over the question of Namibian independence.

The mission could be seen as an attempt to retrieve some of the good will Washington gained in Africa during the Carter administration, on whose behalf Andrew Young toured the continent and conferred with its leaders. The Carter administration's standing was also enhanced by the helpful attitude it took to the solution of the Zimbabwe problem.

The vast majority of the African countries firmly uphold the cause of Namibian independence, and the support the SWAPO guerrillas fighting against South Africa to achieve it. But the American stand on the question, and that of the West in general, is complicated by the vast interests various Western concerns have in Namibia, a country rich in uranium, gold, silver and diamonds.

The task of the Washington planners, it would thus appear, is to chart a course which avoids both rupturing relations with South Africa and harming Western interests in Namibia on the one hand, and straining the relations further with the rest of Southern Africa on the other. That, to put it mildly, will not be easy. But Washington already realizes to an extent, it was its own policies which caused many of the black states in Africa to drift closer to the Soviet Union.

Saudi Arabian Press Review

Newspapers Sunday mostly led with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's three-day official visit to Saudi Arabia beginning Sunday. Bilateral relations and the European initiative on the Middle East issue will be the major topics of discussion between Mrs. Thatcher and Crown Prince Fahd, they said. Meanwhile, *Al Nada* gave lead coverage to rising commando operations against Israel, and *Al Yamal* with Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal's visit to Nepal, which brought an end to his Asian tour of five countries including India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Newspapers frontpaged a message which King Khaled received from Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman. They further gave page one highlight to a statement by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who reportedly said that any refusal to sell arms to Saudi Arabia would constitute "a serious setback" in bilateral relations. Newspapers also played on their front pages Prince Saud Al-Faisal's reaffirmation in Kathmandu that the solution of the Middle East problem lies in the Israeli withdrawal and the Soviet presence in Afghanistan is a flagrant violation of the U.N. charter.

The reported return of tension between Algeria and Morocco was frontpaged by *Al Riyad* which reported that King Hassan II of Morocco has appealed to the U.N. Secretary General to intervene to stop attacks by "foreign forces."

Newspaper editorials mostly concentrated on the British prime minister's visit to the Kingdom. *Al Medina* said in an editorial that Britain is conscious

have to be given foremost consideration.

Al Bilad noted in an editorial that Saudi-British relations give a new dimension to Euro-Arab ties. Mutual visits among the leaders of Saudi Arabia and Europe are symbolic of a real bridge of complete mutual understanding, said the paper, adding that Mrs. Thatcher's visit is considered as a continuation of the Euro-Arab dialogue on matters of common concern. The paper hoped that Britain would adopt a new stance after the British prime minister ends her visit and understands the many basic aspects of the crucial issues.

On the other hand, *Okaz* dealt with U.S. Secretary of State Haig's remarks on the supply of arms to Saudi Arabia. It said that America's response to Saudi Arabian requests for arms is a good indication of the U.S. decision-makers beginning to get rid of the Zionist influence. The U.S. gesture would be considered a positive step toward the consolidation of bilateral ties, the paper said. It added that, unlike Israel, Saudi Arabia makes payment for its arms purchases, which are meant for self-defense and not for committing aggression on anyone. The paper held the view that the U.S. congressmen's agreement with their government's policy would tend to convince many in this region that the U.S. takes independent decisions uninfluenced by alien machinery. It also reminded that Saudi Arabia has already made it clear that it was in favor of diversification of the resources of arms, in order to be always ready to protect its independence and sovereignty from any hostile attack.

Britain struggles to stay in arms race

By Rodney Pinder

LONDON — Britain, still one of the world's richer nations despite its economic malaise, is struggling to keep up in the international arms race. But fear and suspicion of Soviet intentions drive it on. The Conservative government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher believes the nation must stay in the marathon despite the drain on its economic health until all competitors agree to quit.

Meanwhile, it is urgently seeking new ways to shed weight and rearrange its strength in order to keep its end up in the Western defense race with the Eastern Bloc. The trials of Britain's military planners were graphically illustrated in this year's defense estimates documents published this week. They spelled out in unprecedented detail the arguments for staying in the arms race, the cost of doing so — and disclosed that this year Britain cannot meet the goal urged by the West's pacemaker, the United States.

Official figures showed Britain will not attain the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) target of a three per cent real increase in spending in 1981-82. It will be fortunate just to keep abreast with inflation, while hoping to regain lost ground in subsequent years.

The main thrust behind the document is that in this time of super technology and astronomically sophisticated weapons systems even a national budget of \$26 billion, which is what Britain plans to spend in the current year, can leave a modern European defense force looking threadbare in places.

Britain has had to cut procurements of ammunition, fuel and oil and essential spares so that its 330,000-strong volunteer armed forces have been restricted in training and deployment. A standing joke amongst some officers is that soldiers are spending more time playing war games on boards than in tanks.

Many of Britain's warships and planes are fitted with outdated or obsolete weapons because the country cannot afford new delivery platforms as well as new items to deliver. The defense documents gave a sample price list for a British military purchaser in 1980: One new frigate, \$265 million; one ground-attack jet, \$25 million, one tank, \$3.3 million; one rifle, \$660; one bullet, 33 cents.

Britain, West Germany and France stand about the same last year to stay in the second league of NATO powers. With recession-bit economies and constant voter demands for more and better jobs, booms and services, other European nations are also struggling to maintain the furious pace set by the superpowers.

Britain says the United States spent \$140.5 billion on defense last year and the Soviet Union about \$120 billion. The defense documents said that in that year the Soviet Union added to its arsenal 250 Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), at least 1,300 combat aircraft, more than 400 helicopters, more than 3,000 tanks, five major surface ships, at least nine nuclear-powered submarines and four conventional submarines.

Britain's total defense forces can only muster 64 ICBMs, 713 combat aircraft and 1,201 tanks.

"It is the association of immense military power with a hostile and expansionist ideology which makes the Soviet Union a potential threat to the West," the defense documents said. Ironically, NATO's supreme commander in Europe, Gen. Bernard Rogers, told reporters recently that the Soviet argument for arming would probably be identical. Just exchange the words "West" and "Soviet Union."

Ninety-five per cent of Britain's defense budget is devoted to containing the Soviet Union. The money, \$450 a year for every person in the 55 million population, accounts for 5.2 per cent of a shrinking Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Both conservative and Labor governments have taken the perceived Soviet menace seriously since 1945. Britain has consistently devoted a higher proportion of its GDP to defense than any of its NATO allies except the U.S. A key question is how much longer this can last.

For the first time Britain's opposition Labor Party, waiting in the wings for power, is committed to unilateral nuclear disarmament. Its leader, Michael Foot, has pledged to fight arms spending in a deprived and dangerous world. Disarmament could play a major role in the campaign for Britain's next election, due by 1984. Labor's assertion that millions of Britons want to drop out of the \$50 billion a year arms race may soon be put to the test. (R)



Communists may hold key to French elections

By Gregory Macarthur

LYON, France —

Georges Marchais is the man Frenchmen cannot ignore. They tune in every time the Communist presidential candidate appears on television to denounce the government in his booming voice. He brags that his ratings outstrip the soccer matches and the Sunday night movie.

The party faithful listen to bear the word, the conservatives watch in fascinated horror and the Socialists tune in with apprehension. The common wisdom is that the 60-year-old former metal worker is more interested in blocking the rise of the Socialist Party than in promoting a victory by a unified left in the upcoming presidential election.

After the first round on April 26, most polls show incumbent Valery Giscard d'Estaing and Socialist Francois Mitterrand neck and neck in the May 10 runoff. The influence of the Communists, who usually draw 20 per cent of the vote in the first round, could be decisive. In the first round, the presence of Marchais, neo-Gaullist Jacques Chirac and six minor party candidates virtually assure that no one will receive the majority needed for an outright victory.

The Socialist-Communist alliance for the 1978 national legislative elections appeared headed for success when Marchais started attacking the Socialists late in the campaign. The center-right coalition held, and many leftists blamed Marchais for wrecking the "union of the left."

While preaching alliance, Marchais began his campaign by criticizing Mitterrand's "bourgeois political orientation" and insisting that any future coalition government with the Socialists include Communist ministers, something Mitterrand — courting the moderate vote — says he will not

accept. Many observers felt the issue of Communist ministers was deliberately raised to scare the moderates away and insure a conservative victory.

The idea of a unified left, and the realization that it is the only way to end 23 years of conservative rule, remains strong among Socialists and Communists, and Marchais recently has softened his attacks against Mitterrand. "We must beat Giscard, and to do so we must have a unified left," he declared last week at a campaign rally in Lyon, France's second largest city. However, he also insisted again on Communist ministers, saying "it is inconceivable to ask for Communist support and then exclude Communists from the government."

Lyon is traditionally bourgeois and went for Giscard by a 56-44 per cent margin in the 1974 presidential election, which Mitterrand lost by 1.6 per cent of the national vote.

With the help of four special trains and several hundred chartered buses, Marchais and his party drew an estimated 30,000 people to the city's soccer stadium. The three other major candidates used the indoor Palais de Sports, which has a capacity of only about 15,000, for their rallies here.

In a nearly two-hour speech, Marchais hit on his familiar themes, blaming Giscard for France's 7.3 per cent unemployment and 12.7 per cent inflation and promising to nationalize all industry, confiscate individual earnings above \$100,000, shorten the work week to 35 hours and expand paid vacation time from four to five weeks.

Other main points include shutting off the flow of immigrant workers to France and launching an all-out campaign against drugs. The first issue is seen as an overt appeal to lower class bigotry and the second an attempt to portray the Communist Party as moral guardian of French values threatened by "decadent bourgeois society."

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The crowd seemed genuinely enthusiastic. Women strained for a look at the candidate and men rushed up to kiss him on both cheeks as he toured the stadium after the singing of the "Marseillaise" and the "Internationale."

The sense of working class identity is strong in France, and Marchais hopes to make sure it remains linked to the Communist Party. The rise of the Socialist Party from just about 5 per cent of the electorate 10 years ago to well over 25 per cent at this point is the reason many observers believe Marchais secretly hopes for Giscard's victory in May.

Despite trumpeting the need for a unified left, his speech here was peppered with warnings against trusting leaders from any milieu except the working class. Mitterrand is a lawyer. — (AP)

Letter to the editor

Sir,

I refer to the letter by William A. Rensik published February. You have already appropriately explained the point raised by the writer. I have to make a few comments about his observations on international coverage in your newspaper. I happened to be in New York in October last, when President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan addressed the U.N. General Assembly on behalf of the OIC i.e. 800 million Muslims of the world. The next day a newspaper like *The Washington Post* found the event to be "unit to print," and *The New York Times* published a front page story in the nature of comments mainly containing its disapproval of Zia's handling of the Palestine issue, because he strongly criticized the American pro-Israel policy. Two days after this, Zia had an hour long meeting with President Jimmy Carter. This event was reported by *The Washington Post* in "Personalities" column. *The New York Times* did publish a picture taking up 48 square inches of space on the front page, but there was no news about it. Even the welcoming speech of Carter was not published.

On Oct. 5, there was a meeting of the Islamic foreign ministers at the U.N. relating to the Palestine issue. This event too, could not find any place in the American newspapers.

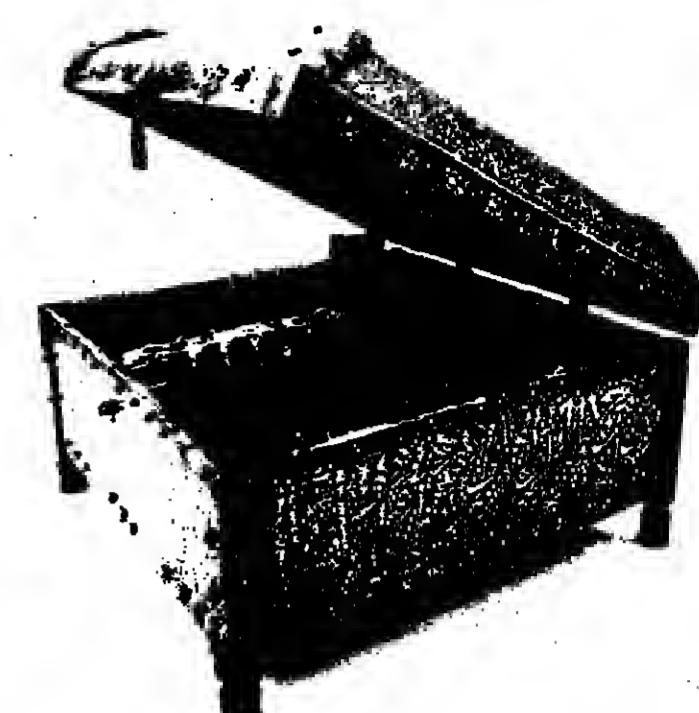
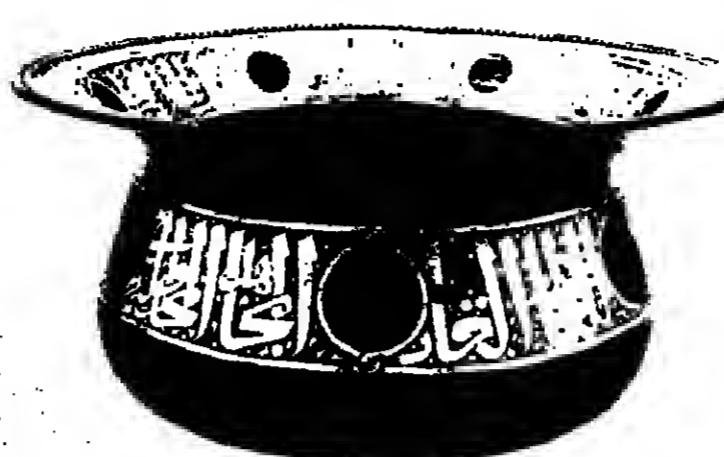
So, this is the American newspapers' standard and style of coverage of international or non-American news. At a meeting with senior journalists there, I pointed out this matter, and the reply was that the coverage naturally depends on the "relative importance" of the events, as evaluated by the editors or publishers.

In his book *Zionist Connection*, the famous Jewish author and journalist, Eliezer Lefinthal has done quite a good research on the American newspapers' coverage of the Middle East, particularly about their bias toward the Zionist entity Israel. I will advise William to have a good look at this book.

Being on a brief visit to Saudi Arabia these days, I have found that the standard of "relative importance" of the news from outside, in *Arab News*, is, if not a 100 times, at least 50 times better than the American newspapers. Our friend William will be better advised to draw the attention of the American journalists to the poor coverage of "non-American news" in their newspapers.

Truly yours,
Zia ul Islam Ahsan
Editor,
Daily "Mashair",
Lahore — Pakistan





MAMLUK ART: An exhibition of Mamluk art is being organized in the United States. Among the 130 objects that will be on display the picture shows three of them. At left is a hexagonal tile with asymmetrical design with underglaze painted in blue and turquoise; brass basin inlaid with silver and copper (center); and wooden Quran box plated with brass and inlaid with silver and gold.

America opens door to Mamluk art

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Mamluks, originally 13th century bodyguards for the rulers of Egypt and Syria, rose to become one of the major ruling classes of the Middle Ages, commanding those countries for 250 years. Their cultural and artistic achievements are impressive by any standards, leaving a legacy of opulence, especially in architecture, in religious manuscripts, and in metalwork and glass.

The first major international exhibition of Mamluk art in the United States is being organized for a two-year national tour by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. The curator for the exhibition is Dr. Esin Attil, curator of Islamic Art at the Smithsonian's Freer Gallery of Art. The premier showing of *Renaissance of Islam: Art of the*

Mamluks will be at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. from May 15 through July 19, 1981.

Many of the exhibition's 130 objects will be on loan from these institutions: the Islamic Museum and the National Library in Cairo; the National Museum in Damascus; the Louvre in Paris; the British Museum; the Victoria and Albert Museum in London; the Chester Beatty Library in Dublin; the Royal Ontario Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; the Boston Museum of Fine Arts; the Textile Museum; the Dumbarton Oaks Collection in Washington, D.C.; the Detroit Institute of Arts; the Cleveland Museum of Art; the Toledo Museum of Art; the Corning Museum of Glass; the Walters

Art Gallery in Baltimore; and the Madina Collection.

The Mamluk dynasty oversaw medieval Islam's most creative age. Its arts included elaborately illuminated oversize Qurans and illustrated versions of classical texts; brass objects intricately inlaid with silver and gold; various glass vessels delicately painted in polychrome enamels and gold; ceramics and tiles, often adorned with blazons of the owners; carved woodwork, inlaid with diverse woods and ivory; and outstanding carpets and textiles. *Renaissance of Islam: Art of the Mamluks* will contain some of the best examples of Islamic art from the 13th to the 16th centuries.

The characteristic architecture of the period reveals technical virtuosity in the use of stone, especially in domes, minarets and entrance portals, as well as superbly decorated interior glittering with marble mosaics, inlaid woodwork and painted stucco. A photographic essay documents key Mamluk architectural monuments in Cairo to supplement the exhibition. Several major buildings are illustrated in detail and related to the objects on display. The development of architectural styles and decorative vocabulary is explained in accompanying texts.

In addition the exhibition features a book, fully illustrated in color, published by the Smithsonian Institution Press with funding from United Technologies Corporation. The Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange between the United States and the Arab Republic of Egypt has provided a grant to support the visits of the Egyptian curatorial staff to supervise the handling of the artifacts during the tour and also to gain experience in American museum practices.

(Smithsonian Institution)

Printed in both Arabic and English, the book will be published in a hardbound edition for commercial distribution as well as softbound copies for sale by SITES and the exhibitors on the tour. Written by Attil, the book discusses Mamluk history, the patronage of the arts by the sultans and amirs, and the stylistic and technical development of the arts. SITES will also publish brochures that are a brief guide to the exhibition and a general introduction to the Mamluk period. Posters will also be available.

Coinciding with the Washington opening, there will be a three-and-one-half day symposium held, with 18 papers presented by internationally renowned scholars. The program will consist of sessions on political history, social institutions and relations with Eastern and Western powers; current research on the development of architecture and architectural decoration; new discoveries and excavation reports; and technical studies on religious, literary and scientific manuscripts, metalwork, glass, ceramics, textiles and carpets.

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(Smithsonian Institution)

Machine solves nightmares

LONDON (LPS) The problem of nightmares has been solved by a small machine that measures a sleeper's respiratory rate. The device, invented by Dr. Keith Hearne, a psychologist at Hull University in eastern England, is the size of a book and lies by the sleeper's head with a wire clipped to the nostril to monitor breaths.

If it registers more than 24 breaths per minute, indicating a stressful dream, an alarm gently wakes the sleeper. Dr. Hearne

explained: "More than a million people in Britain alone now suffer from dreadful nightmares at least twice a week sometimes; these dreams can be lethal, especially for heart patients."

"They will do anything to get rid of them and presently it is an unrecognized problem. This invention will save a lot of human suffering."

He says the device could also help psychiatric patients. It is shortly to go on sale at a cost of £100.

fully illustrated in color, published by the Smithsonian Institution Press with funding from United Technologies Corporation.

(Smithsonian Institution)

HANDLES: Gilded glass lamp enamelled in blue, green, yellow, red, white and purple with applied handles.

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Atomic fuel supply

U.S. said ending deal with India

MADRAS, April 19 (Agencies) — The United States has communicated to India its decision to unilaterally terminate the 1963 nuclear cooperation agreement with India. The *Hindu* newspaper reported Saturday in a dispatch from its correspondent in Washington. The Tarapur atomic power station on the western coast of India was built by the United States under the treaty, which provides for American supply of enriched uranium until 1993 to fuel the plant.

The decision, conveyed by James W. Malone, an aide of President Ronald Reagan, to visiting Indian External Affairs Secretary

Eric Gonsalves and Indian Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Homi Sethna, followed India's steadfast refusal to open all its nuclear installations to international inspection. Though the Tarapur plant itself is under safeguards, the 1972 U.S. nuclear nonproliferation act made inspection of all atomic facilities a prerequisite for future fuel shipments.

The independent newspaper said Malone told the Indian official that, despite its unilateral repudiation of the bilateral accord, Washington still has control over the spent fuel, which can be reprocessed into weapon-grade plutonium. The *Hindu* said Sethna, India's top nuclear official, deplored the American repudiation of the treaty and rejected the idea of maintaining

safeguards over nuclear materials.

I quashed a senior Indian diplomat in Washington as saying that the American decision was "like asking for a divorce and demanding that the other party not marry anybody else." Meanwhile, an Indian government spokesman told reporters in New Delhi that India so far has not been officially informed by the United States of its reported decision to end the 18-year-old agreement.

In a related development, the Indian department of atomic energy said in its annual report Saturday that India will reprocess spent fuel from its nuclear power reactors to recover plutonium. The report, quoted by the Press Trust of India (PTI), said reprocessing was likely to start after a third unit being conducted at the Tarapur plant near Bombay.

Medical researcher says

Smoking linked to crib death

HARRISBURG, Pennsylvania, April 19 (AP) — Analysis of thousands of pregnancies indicate there is a greater risk of crib death among infants whose mothers suffered severe anemia or were smokers during pregnancy, a medical researcher says. The theory was developed by Dr. Richard Neve, chairman of the pediatrics department at the Pennsylvania State University Medical School, Hershey Medical Center.

Mrs. Sullivan said she called Esquire Waldron, clerk at the village hall, who went and caught a glimpse of her own. "It looked like the head of a big male and it was black," Waldron said. "It came out of the water about a foot and a half and stayed up for 10 or 15 seconds each time."

Neve said the research was based on studies of 60,000 pregnancies over a six-year

period. "Through statistics, we've found these factors are independent of other factors that can cause SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome)," Neve said. "Smoking and anemia, however, won't explain all the SIDS deaths. We don't know the rest of the reasons."

Neve said smoking reduces the oxygen flow in the blood vessels feeding the unborn infant. He said one cigarette can constrict blood vessels for five to 15 minutes. He said research has determined the control centers in the brain stem, responsible for such basic functions as breathing and heart action, have a higher requirement of oxygen before birth. "The mechanisms controlling breathing and heart action are only a primary control within the first few months after birth," Neve said.

He said within the first three or four months after birth, the brain has not developed a backup system for breathing and heart action and if the primary system fails, death generally follows. Neve said he believes this occurs in one-half to two-thirds of the crib deaths.

Neve said anemia has an adverse effect because of the reduced number of oxygen-carrying red blood cells. As with smoking, he said, this results in less oxygen going to the developing fetus. He said researchers are concentrating on developing an early detection of infants who most likely could be crib death victims. "If that's possible, we can prevent many deaths using monitors," Neve said.

He was referring to a device attached to a sleeping infant that sets off an alarm if breathing ceases. The alarm startles the infant into resuming breathing and alerts parents who can help the child resume breathing. "I'm not sure yet," Neve said.

Neve said crib death usually strikes no sooner than when the child is two to three months in age. It reaches its peak at about 3 months and tapers off after 8 months, he said, adding that it is very uncommon after age 1. He said parents should notify their physician if they notice their child not breathing while sleeping for periods exceeding 20 seconds.



Philippine leader Benigno Aquino

Aquino willing to return to Manila

MANILA, April 19 (AP) — Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino would be willing to return to the country and face arrest if President Ferdinand Marcos allowed freedom of campaign for the opposition in the upcoming June 16 presidential election.

Former senator Salvador Laurel, a possible opposition candidate in the June 16 presidential election, returned from Tokyo Sunday, where he discussed campaign strategies with Aquino. He said that Aquino was willing to be campaign manager for the United Democratic Opposition (UNIDO).

In exile in the United States, Aquino has considered the opposition's best bet for the presidency but he is two years short of the minimum age limit of 50. Aquino was

detained in jail for medical reasons last May. But Marcos said recently that his health might be improved if he returned, to face a trial for his conviction for murder and subversion and to clear a charge of involvement in a bombing.

Laurel, who has been in Japan from a prison cell since 1972, told reporters Sunday that Aquino was willing to return from a prison cell to campaign for the opposition. "He wants to return to the people and to the opposition," Laurel said. "He wants to be a candidate for the opposition and not for the United Democratic Opposition. He would not advise Aquino to come back."

Laurel, who has been in Japan since April 1972, told reporters, "Let him say he wants to come back. Let him say he wants Aquino to come back."

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- GREASE TRUCK with "Tecalemit" Equipment and compressors
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- CAT DOZERS No. 9 with ripper, tilting plate, cabin
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- CRUSHING PLANT Capacity 300 tons/hr.
- CRANE Capacity 35 tons "Gantv"
- BATCH PLANT Capacity 60m³/hr.
- CHILLING TOWER 12,000 liters (for Batch Plant)
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- GENERATOR CAT 210 kVA with governor, exhaust pipe with switchboard
- COMPRESSOR (6.5m³/min.) "Atlas Copco" or equivalent
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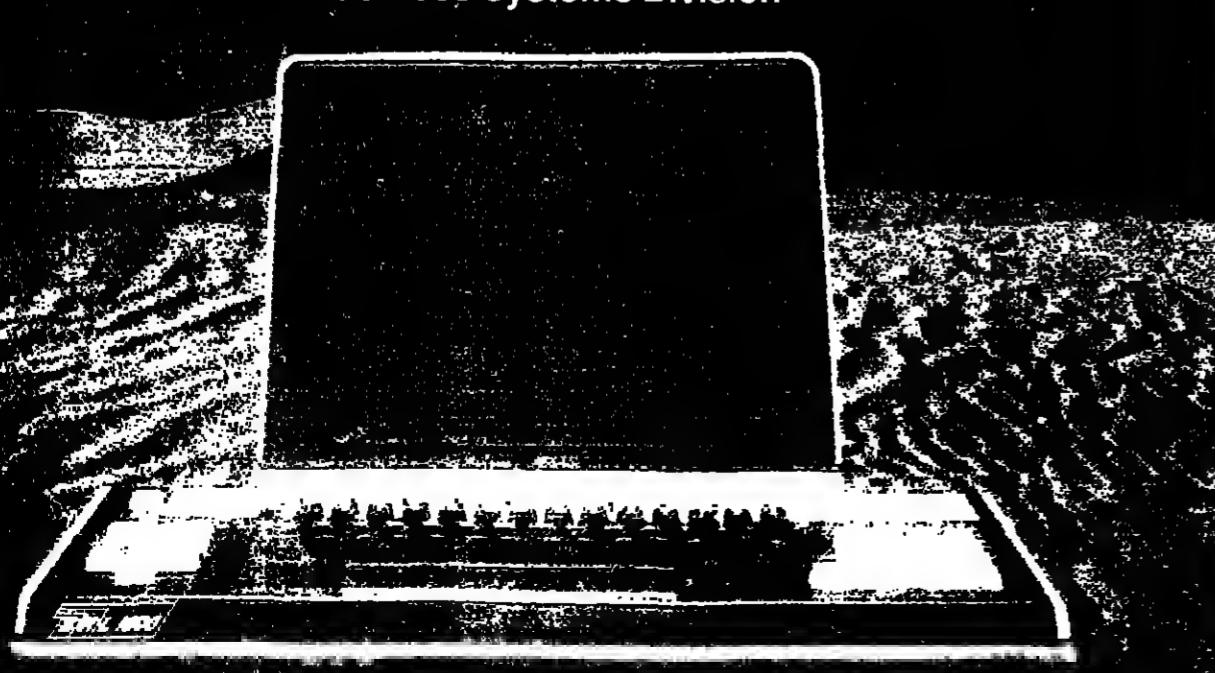
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Soviet industrial growth declines

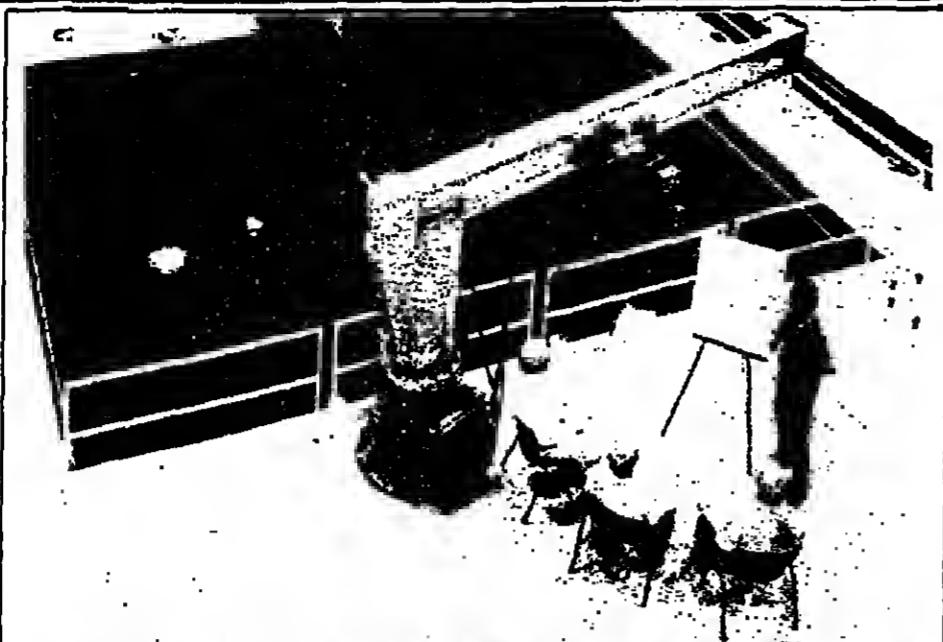
MOSCOW, April 19 (AP) — Soviet industrial growth slowed during the first quarter of 1981, according to government statistics released Saturday.

Data released by the central statistical board and published in the Soviet government newspaper *Pravda* also indicated that the nation's production of steel and coal was down slightly. The production of meat, usually in short supply, and dairy products also was reported down two per cent from the same period a year ago. That contrasted to the large increases in milk and meat production outlined in the new five-year plan.

Oil production for the first three months of the year was reported at 150 million tons. That was up one per cent over the same period last year, but short of the pace necessary to meet the goal of 610 million tons for the year.

According to the report, industrial output was up 3.1 per cent during the period Jan. 1-March 31, compared to the projected growth rate for 1981 of 4.1 per cent. Industrial output was about 8 per cent a year during the period 1966-1975, 4.6 per cent during the five-year plan that ended last December, and 3.96 per cent last year.

Coal production was 186 million tons, down less than one per cent for the quarter, but running ahead of the pace required to surpass last year's output.



TRAINING CLASSES: Work in atomic reactor power plants is very specialized. To help employees in these plants to know their business, classes are held that explain how to handle complicated and delicate equipment. Seen here is a class being taught how to handle a crane at a training center in San Jose, California.

U.S. links lifting embargo to Soviet behavior on Poland

WASHINGTON, April 19 (AP) — U.S. Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige has said that President Reagan possibly will lift the United States' partial embargo on grain sales to the Soviet Union within the next two weeks, if the president is convinced that the Russians are not about to intervene militarily in Poland.

Baldrige, who made the comments in an interview on the cable news network, is the highest-ranking administration official to

confirm that the president is about to lift the embargo.

Administration sources who asked that their names not be used said last week that Reagan was ready to lift the sanctions which former President Jimmy Carter imposed in the wake of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in December 1979. Reagan promised during the campaign to lift the embargo if he were elected. "I think that as soon as he (Reagan) feels that there's a real sign that the Russians are most probably not going to invade Poland..." Baldrige replied when asked what the embargo was about to be lifted.

The commerce secretary said "possibly" when asked if Reagan might take the action "in a week or two." White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Saturday no decision had been reached on whether to lift the embargo, adding that the subject was not even discussed at the most recent cabinet meeting last Thursday.

Baldrige declined to comment when asked whether the Soviets had set the stage for lifting the embargo by giving assurances recently that no intervention is imminent.

Baldrige said he personally favored lifting the 16-month-old embargo now, but everyone in the administration was "pretty much in agreement" that a reasonable signal or gesture from the Soviet Union was needed. "There has to be in effect, a quid pro quo," Baldrige said. "It takes some action to remove it." The commerce secretary said the quid pro quo did not have to be public.

U.S. car firm loses \$52m in 3 months

DETROIT, April 19 (AP) — American Motors Corp. lost \$52.7 million in the first three months of 1981, the worst first quarter in the company's history, AMC has reported.

The loss, which amounted to 92 cents a share, compared with a profit of \$1.3 million, or 4 cents a share, in the first quarter of last year. The previous record loss for the first quarter was \$47.8 million in 1975.

First-quarter sales dropped two per cent to \$598 million from \$798 million in the same period last year.

AMC's report was an indication that a sales slump continues to plague the United States' major automakers, which lost a total of \$4.1 billion last year. In 1980, AMC lost a company record \$198 million, or \$6 a share.

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National Guard	Construction of barracks at Khadim Al-Am	43/400/ 400	401	4-5-81
Directorate of Municipal & Rural Affairs in the Western Region	Construction of Al-Samda flyover in Dhuba'a	29/M	500	17-5-81
Ministry of Education	Project of the exchange and telephone networks for the ministry's building for the year 1401/1402.	8/M	2000	23-5-81
Ministry of Interior, Directorate of Cost Guard	Medical instruments and requirements	1	—	25-4-81
	Medical medicines	2	—	27-4-81

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To take over banks, units Mitterrand's plan alarms French investors

PARIS, April 19 (R) — Socialist presidential candidate Francois Mitterrand has aroused alarm on the Paris stock exchange with a plan to nationalize leading industrial companies and banks.

It is the only element of his election program to have caused real concern to financiers. Mitterrand, tipped by some opinion polls to beat President Valery Giscard d'Estaing in the two-round poll which begins April 26, wants to nationalize nine industrial giants as well as key sectors of the steel industry, private banks and firms involved in major defense contracts.

To do this, he would need a majority in the National Assembly, and many business executives are quietly confident he will not achieve this.

But Mitterrand has promised to dissolve the current center-right dominated assembly almost immediately after coming into office, and a very different set of parliamentarians could be swept to power in the wake of a Socialist victory in the presidential race.

The nine groups he has named are: Aircraft makers Dassault-Breguet, chemical giants Rhone-Poulenc and Roussel-Uclaf, the electronics firms Compagnie Generale d'Electricite (CGE) and Thomson-Brandt, the telecommunications company ITT-France, engineers and steelmakers Pechiney-Ugine Kuhlmann (PUK), the computer concern CII-Honeywell Bull, and the glass, construction and electronics conglomerate St. Gobain Pont-A-Mousson. Their total annual turnover is more than 200 billion francs, \$9 billion.

A Socialist government would nationalize 100 per cent and take full control of any partially-owned subsidiary, their activity is "of strategic importance to the economy," Socialist Party officials say, in other cases only the parent company's share would be absorbed. Complex legal problems could arise with companies which have a large network of foreign subsidiaries, or are themselves largely owned or controlled abroad.

Thomson-Brandt has major subsidiaries

Argentina, Brazil and the United States,

while ITT-France is controlled by the American ITT corporation, Roussel-Uclaf is a subsidiary of West Germany's Hoechst AG, and CII-Honeywell Bull is 47 percent owned by Honeywell Bull of the U.S.



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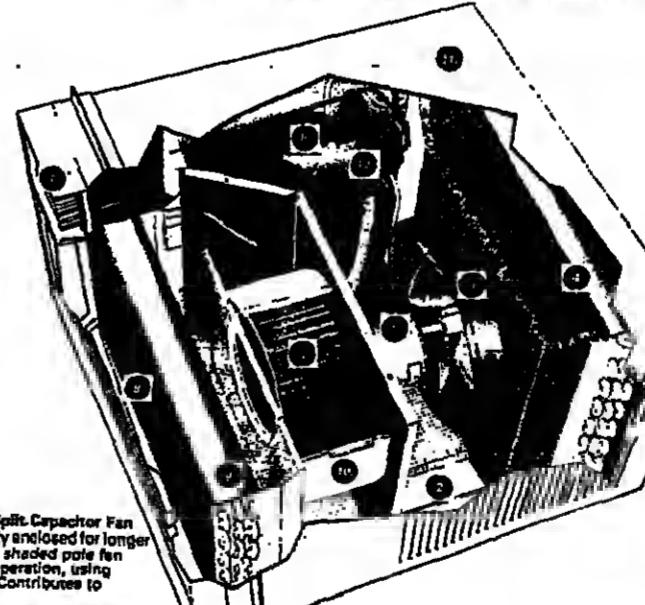
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Accord with U.S. soon on assets, says Iran

TEHRAN, April 19 (AP) — The issue of Iranian assets frozen in the United States will be settled in the next few days and \$2.2 billion, whose return is not disputed, will be transferred to Iran in three months' time, Executive Affairs Minister Behzad Nabavi said here Sunday.

The minister told the press that "in three months' time no Iranian assets will remain in the United States."

On April 14, Iran accused the United States of failing to fully respect the Algiers agreement which led to the release of 50 American hostages from Tehran. Nabavi said Sunday that though the United States was

U.S. petrol consumption dips

NEW YORK, April 19 (AP) — U.S. gasoline consumption in March fell to its lowest level for that month in a decade, reflecting conservation fostered by rising prices, the American Petroleum Institute has reported. Daily average deliveries from refineries' storage tanks of 6.039 million barrels in March fell 3.8 per cent from March 1980 and 16.5 per cent from the same month in 1979, the industry association said in its monthly statistical report. It was the lowest March average since 1971, when a 5.839 million barrel-a-day average was recorded, according to API.

"Gasoline prices rose about two cents per gallon in March, though several companies lowered postings toward month end," the

U.K. inflation rate up

LONDON, April 19 (AP) — Britain's annual inflation rate rose slightly to 12.6 per cent in March, the first rise in 10 months, official figures have showed. The increase, from 12.5 per cent in February, was due mainly to the Conservative government's harsh austerity budget imposed March 10, with sharply increased duties on gasoline, liquor and tobacco.

Government officials said, however, they expected inflation to fall steadily through the rest of the year to 10 per cent by December. Inflation, boosted by higher sales tax and interest rates, soared to a peak of 21.8 per cent a year after Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher took office and set about introducing her controversial tight money policies. But the rate has since dropped steadily as Britain struggled with its worst post-1930s recession.

Foreign Exchange Rates

	Quoted at 5:00 P.M. Saturday	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
American Dinar	8.60	8.91		
Belgian Franc (1,000)	94.00	100.00		
Canadian Dollar	2.81	3.20		
Danish Mark (100)	155.00	155.00	153.30	
Dutch Guilder (100)	140.66	143.00	138.10	
English Pound	—	—	4.30	4.30
Egyptian Dinar (100)	—	99.20	91.30	
French Franc (100)	—	66.50	65.10	
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	—	66.50	
Italian Lira (100)	—	—	40.45	
Japanese Yen (100)	—	—		
Malta Lira (10,000)	31.00	33.20	31.10	
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.50	—	15.55	
Lebanese Dinar	—	10.32	10.26	
Chinese Dinar	—	12.22	12.16	
Chinese Lira (100)	—	83.80	84.00	
Malaysian Ringgit (100)	—	71.00	71.10	
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	—	34.00	
Philippines Peso (100)	—	—	44.00	
Round Sterling	7.29	7.28	7.25	
Iranian Rial (100)	—	92.00	92.30	
Singapore Dollar (100)	—	—	158.70	
Spanish Peseta (1,000)	—	—		
Swiss Franc (100)	169.00	172.00	168.25	
Turkish Lira (1,000)	—	—	55.40	86.50
U.S. Dollar	3.35	3.36	3.3530	
Venezuelan Bolivar (100)	—	73.45	73.45	

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"attempting to obstruct," negotiations were proceeding.

The minister regretted recent Iranian foreign ministry's charges of Islamic Conference Secretary Habib Chatbi's conduct of mediation with Iraq, describing the charges as a "mistake."

Asked about Iran's large imports of refined petroleum products, Nabavi said that the government Saturday allocated \$200 million to the National Oil Company to finance imports.

He described the amount a "small part" of the country's imports of kerosene, and petrol. Iran was once major exporter of these products.

Financial Roundup Market hit by dull trading

By J.H. Hammond

JEDDAH, April 19 — With the European markets closed Sunday, the Bahrain-based and local banks saw an easing of trading activities unlike Saturday. Riyal deposit rates remained firm, but there was little activity to show whether there were any major takers or givers of funds at the quoted rates. One local dealer described business Sunday as "shadow-boxing" with banks not really interested into entering into deals.

Overnight deposits eased slightly from Saturday's 17 per cent levels to 15 per cent and the one-week JIBOR rate also feel to 16-16 1/2 per cent. The one-month level remained steady however at 16-16 1/2 per cent. Spot Riyal against the dollar was quoted at 3.3507 — 15, again showing a fall over Saturday's rates. Most local bankers seemed satisfied with holding onto their present positions in various currencies and awaiting nervously the opening of the major

European markets Tuesday.

Most dealers are still expecting the dollar to open strong and go beyond the 2.20 level against the German mark. A great deal of interest has been generated in this currency since European papers started publishing about possible conflicts between the Bundesbank governor and Chancellor Schmidt. Basically the argument is about policy direction — Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank governor has come under increasing French and local criticism for taking German interest rates higher. This has made the mark relatively attractive for international investors and has brought pressure on the French franc which has slipped from being the number one currency in the EMS — the European Monetary System. The local German critics argue that German business and economic growth is affected by German interest rate rises which only add to inflation.

Hydrogen may replace oil

MILAN, April 19 (R) — Hydrogen produced from water could replace oil as the energy source of the future, Italian chemicals group Montedison has said.

Company researchers in Turin and Lausanne have found a way of producing hydrogen from water cheaply and in large enough quantities for industrial use, Montedison spokesman Guido Negro said Saturday. "The process is cheap because it uses sunlight to convert water into hydrogen and oxygen," he said.

Montedison said the process, involving a

light-sensitive titanium dioxide-based catalyst, had been successful at the laboratory level and testing would continue in collaboration with Turin University.

"We have no plans as yet to build a pilot plant. That is a great step which may take several years, but eventually hydrogen could replace oil in industry," Dr. Negro said. "People are already experimenting with hydrogen-powered transport in America. If they could obtain their fuel in time and cheaply it would be a great help."

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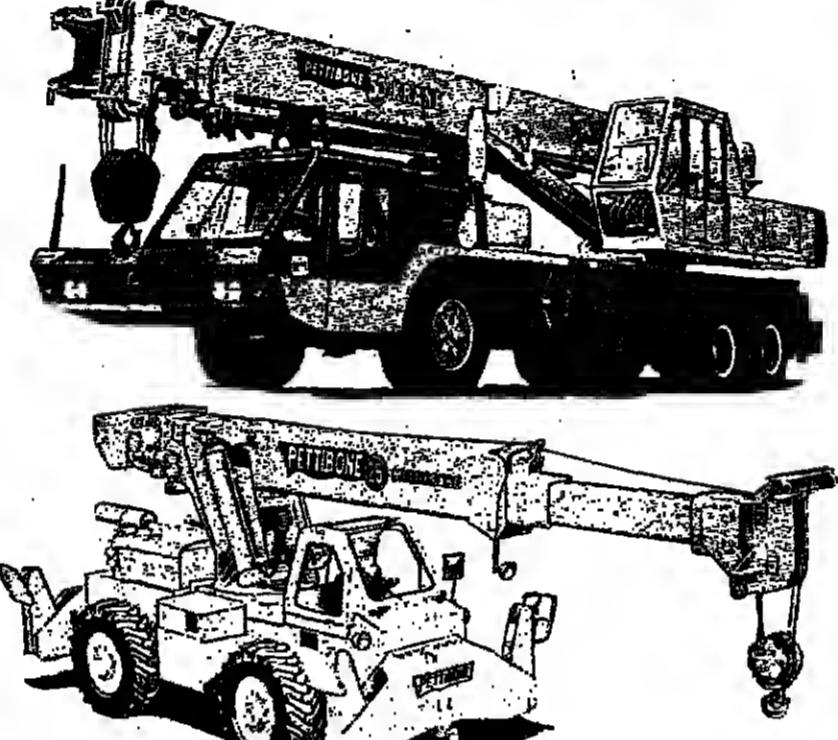
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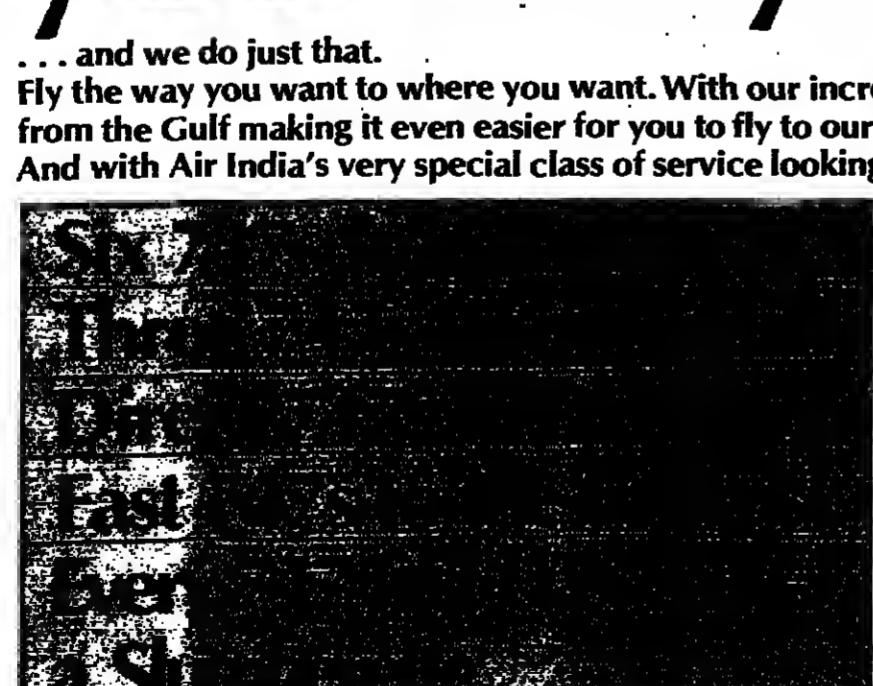
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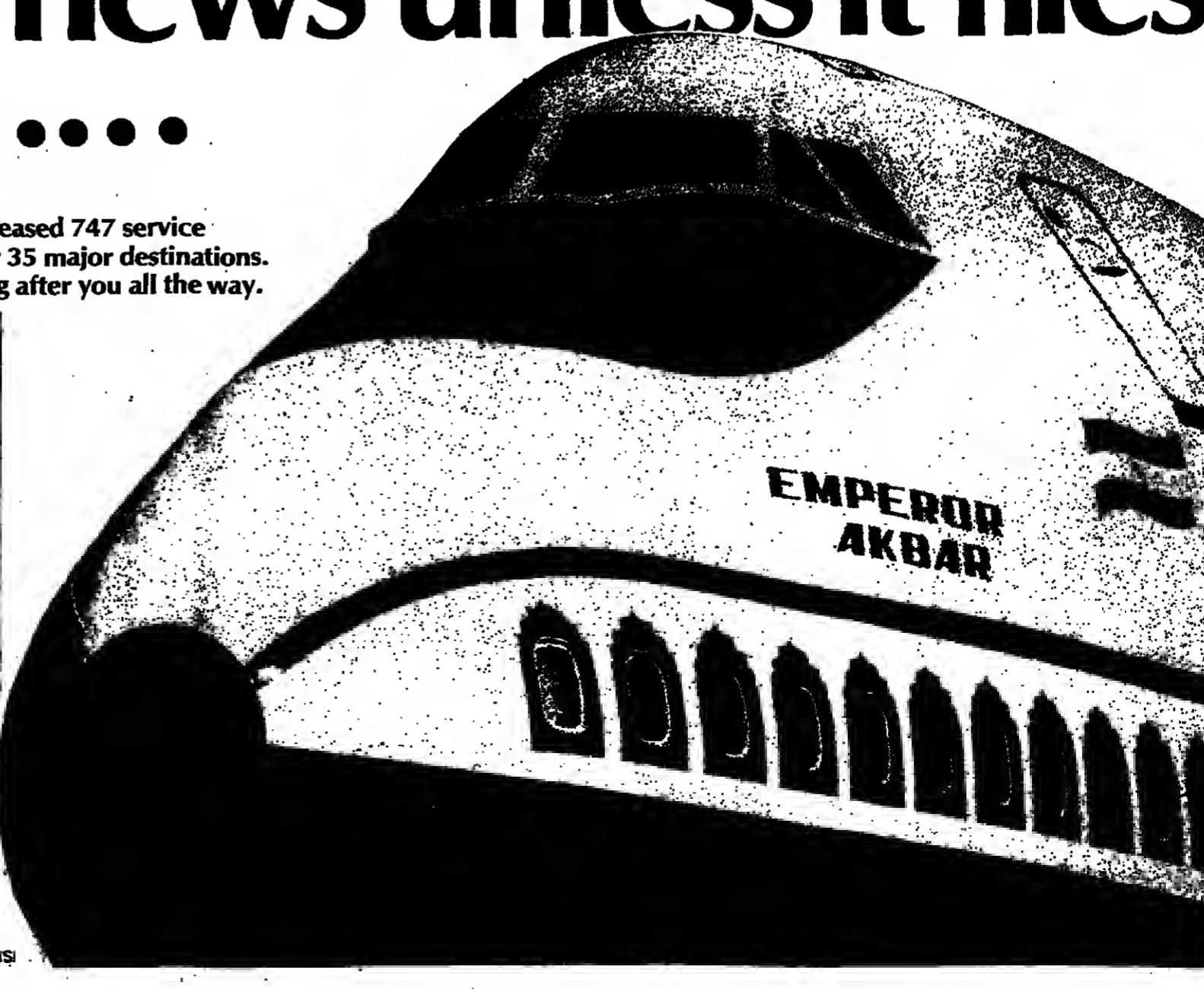
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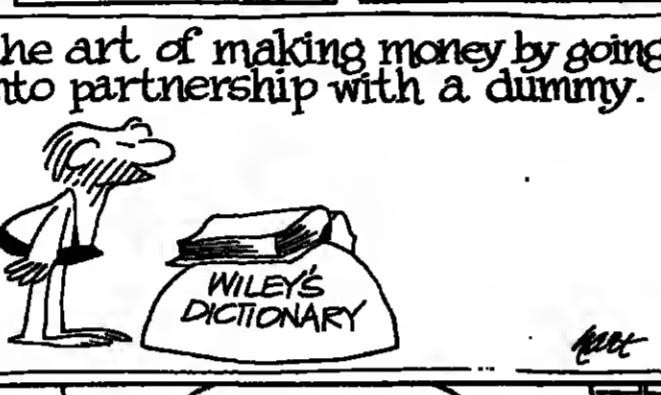
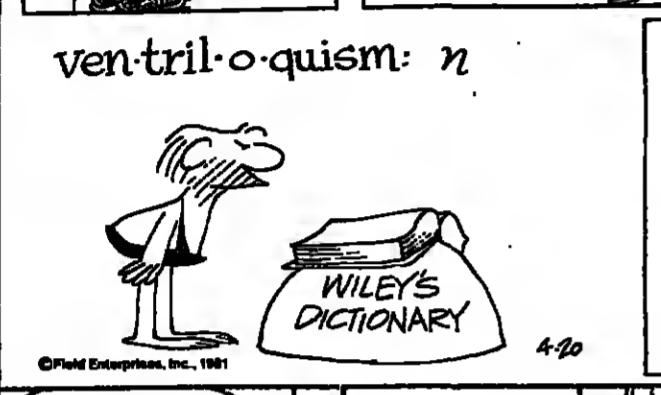


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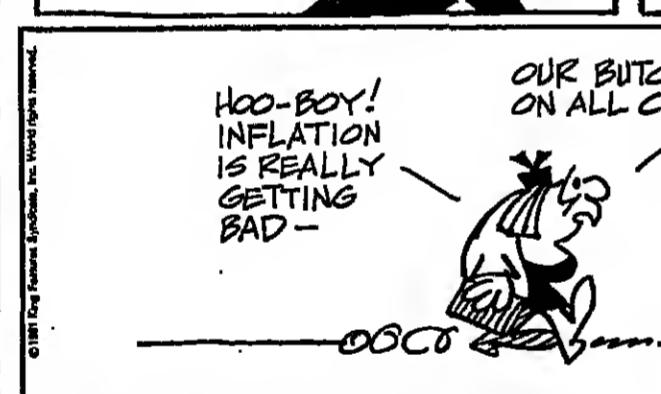
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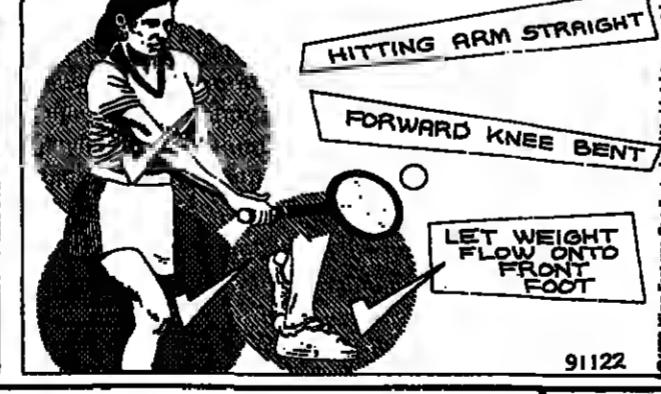
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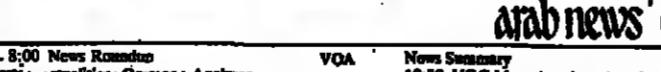
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4:30 Children's Show
5:38 Children's Circus
6:00 Children's Health

6:22 Family Hour Festival

7:19 Old Curiosity Shop

7:46 WKRP in Cincinnati

8:10 Between the Wars

8:25 Channel 3 Feature

SUNDAY: 9:00 Quran, Program Review: 9:33 Educational Programs

9:30 Children's Program: 9:15 Local News, Magiab Prayer's Call: 6:45 Religious Feature: 7:15 Folklore Program: 7:45 News in English: 8:00 Symposium, during which the John Prayer's Call will take place: 9:00 Daily Series: 9:30 News in Arabic, Daily Series, Songs: 11:00 Arabic Film: 12:00 Checknews

MONDAY: 7:00 The Holy Quran: 7:00 Children's Program: 8:30 Family: 9:15 Racing Report: 8:30 Family: 9:15 Quran, Program Review: 9:30 Arabic Film: 10:00 World News: 10:25 Spring and Autumn: 10:50 Feature Film

OMAN T.V. Programs

MONDAY: 5:17 Quran, Program Review: 5:40 Children's Program: 5:40 Adult Education: 6:10 Songs: 6:15 Religious Programs: 7:00 Folklore Program: 7:30 Arabic Army Discussions: 7:30 Arabic Film Series: 8:00 Folk Songs: 8:30 Arabic News: 9:00 Cultural Series: 9:30 Arabic Local News: 9:45 Songs: 10:00 English News: 10:30 Arabic Film: 12:10 News 12:30 Quran, KUWAIT T.V. Programs

MONDAY: 5:00 Quran: 5:15 Religious Talks: 5:30 Cartoon: 6:00 Popcorn & 30 From A.Z.: 7:30 Documentary: 8:00 Local News: 8:10 Girls: 9:00 Arabic Drama: 10:00 World News, At Test: 10:35 Selected Songs, Tomorrow's Program: 1:45 Indian Feature

MONDAY: 6:00 Quran: 6:15 Cartoons: 6:30 Family: 7:00 Islamic Horizons: 7:15 Family: 8:00 Local News: 8:10 Gulf: 9:00 The Dutches of Duke Street: 10:00 World News: 10:25 Spring and Autumn: 10:50 Feature Film

MONDAY: 3:00 Quran: 3:15 Religious Programs: 3:30 Children's Program: 4:00 Cartoons: 4:30 Animal Marvels: 5:15 Daily Arabic Series: 6:00 Arabic News: 6:15 Daily Comedy Series: 6:45 Science Club: 7:15 Daily Arabic Series: 8:10 Arabic News: 9:00 Widow on the World: 9:25 Voice of the Gulf: 10:00 English News: 10:30 Arabic Film

P.M. 8:00 News Roundup
Reports: Australia: Openers: Analyses

8:30 Dateline: News Summary

8:45 World News Summary

9:00 News Summary

9:30 News Roundup

Reports: Analyses

10:00 Opening: Analyses

10:30 VOC Magazine America: Letters

11:00 Special: Letters: News

11:30 News U.S.: 12:00 News

VOA WORLD REPORT: Midnight

12:00 News newsmakers

voles correspondents

reports background: feature stories

common news analyses.

BBC Evening Transmission

8:30 Ulster in Focus

8:45 Sports Round-up

9:00 World News

9:15 Radio Newsreel

9:30 News about Britain

9:45 Alphabet of Musical Curios

10:00 Outlook News Summary

10:30 Stock Market Report

10:45 Look Ahead

10:45 Ulster in Focus

11:00 World News

11:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary

11:05 Sarah Ward

11:45 Something to Show You

11:00 World News

11:45 References

6:00 Radio Newsreel

11:15 Radio Newsreel

11:30 Broadcast of Britain 1978

12:00 World News

7:00 World News

7:09 Commonwealth

7:13 Sherlock Holmes

7:45 World Today

12:00 Financial News

12:40 Look Ahead

8:00 World News

8:09 Books and Writers

12:45 The Tony Myatt

VOA

News Summary

10:30 VOC Magazine America: Letters

Cultures: Letters

11:00 Special: Letters: News

11:30 News U.S.: 12:00 News

VOA WORLD REPORT: Midnight

12:00 News newsmakers

voles correspondents

reports background: feature stories

common news analyses.

SABC Radio-English Service

MONDAY

Afternoon Transmission

7:00 Morning

2:30

6:00

9:00

12:00

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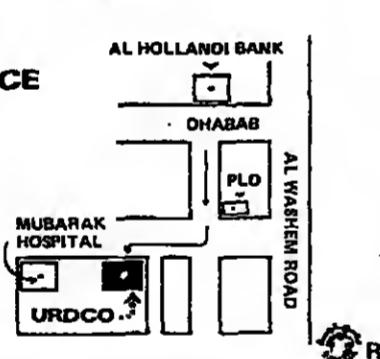
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Sanctions on S. Africa called Nonaligned to train Namibians

ALGIERS, April 19 (Agencies) — The steering committee on Namibia of the nonaligned movement called Sunday for broad U.N. sanctions against South Africa and pledged to arm and train liberation forces fighting to free the territory from South African control. A communiqué signed by 34 foreign ministers representing nonaligned nations also pledged increased aid to the black African countries neighboring white-ruled South Africa to "insure their sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Namibia, also known as Southwest Africa, is a 300,000-square-mile former German

Prior knowledge denied

Bhutto son admits hijack



Murtaza Bhutto

his organization had no connection with his father's Pakistan People Party, and his mother and sister did not approve of violence.

"My mother disapproves of what I am doing," said Bhutto. "They believe sincerely that the political problems should be solved through political processes inside Pakistan. They are against the use of violence. I believe that what we are doing is absolutely necessary." The BBC said Bhutto left India straight after the interview, but refused to say where he was going or where he had been.

He

alleged the hijack was organized by the leading gunman acting on his own initiative.

Asked how he could not have known, Bhutto said "members don't have total access to me all the time."

He

worried about reprisals against his mother, Nusrat and his sister, Benazir, under house arrest in Pakistan, Bhutto said

Poland seeks Solidarity aid

WARSAW, April 19 (AFP) — The government of Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski has offered Lech Wałęsa's Solidarity union a kind of partnership in solving Poland's most pressing problems. The offer was contained in a list of subjects the government wishes to broach with the union before May 6, press reports indicated Sunday.

The government is notably seeking such partnership at village levels. It appeared set on pleading with the union for a partial

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colony. Rich in minerals, it has been administered by South Africa since 1920 under a mandate from the now-defunct League of Nations. The United Nations terminated the mandate in 1966, but the Pretoria government has refused to relinquish Namibia and moved instead to give the territory limited autonomy.

The nonaligned committee said it would ask the U.N. Security Council session next week "urgently to impose worldwide sanctions (against South Africa), including an oil embargo." The security council has imposed an embargo on the sale of arms and other military hardware to South Africa, but measures calling for economic sanctions have been vetoed.

The committee's communiqué, signed early Sunday morning after an all-night session, said the nonaligned movement would call for a special session of the U.N. General Assembly to press its case in the event of a security council veto. The nonaligned movement is made up of more than 90 countries

professing no allegiance to any major power.

The communiqué also called for compilation of "an exhaustive list of all banks and multinational companies which continue to operate in South Africa." All such companies will be prohibited from doing business with any country in the nonaligned movement, the statement said.

It also pledged to arm and train forces of the Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO) who have been waging a protracted war of independence in Namibia. The minister said SWAPO was "the only legitimate representative of the people of Namibia."

SWAPO bases in neighboring Angola and

Zambia have been the targets of attacks by

South African commandos, and the com-

municiqué called for aid to those countries

and the other front-line nations of Botswana,

Mozambique, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Addressing the closing session early Sun-

day, Algerian Foreign Minister Muhammad Benyahia said that Namibia's independence

was inevitable because the whole interna-

tional community was committed to this goal.

ALGIERS, April 19 (Agencies) — Nonaligned foreign ministers who are members of the organization's Gulf war mediation mission met here Sunday to consider proposals for ways of ending the conflict, informed sources said. A diplomatic source said that the participants discussed the information obtained in previous visits to Baghdad and Tehran.

The meeting, at the Cuban Embassy, was

attended by the foreign ministers of Zambia, Cuba and India and the Palestine Liberation Organization's representative at the United Nations in New York.

On the war front, Iran repelled a major Iraqi attack west of Shoush Sunday killing "hundreds" and capturing 50 Iraqi commandos, reported Pars, the official Iranian News Agency in Tehran. Pars said the Iraqis also lost seven tanks and two armored personnel carriers. One ammunition depot destroyed.

In an unrelated development, several people were injured in clashes in a north Tehran suburb Thursday after residents tried to stop revolutionary guards bulldozing "homes built without permission," the daily *Islamic Republic* said Sunday. Nearly 130 "provocateurs" were arrested during the violence, authorities in the nearby town of Karadj, 35 kms north of the capital, added.

"Some of us believe the problems in El



BLOOD PROTEST: Portland demonstrators pour blood from bottles on dollar bills and pictures of victims in El Salvador's civil strife Wednesday. They were protesting outside the federal building in downtown Portland against the U.S. involvement in El Salvador.

Advisers to Salvador

U.S. involvement protested

NEW YORK, April 19 (AP) — About 2,000 persons have packed Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza outside the United Nations building to protest United States policy in El Salvador. U.S. Congressman Ted Weiss, who served master of ceremonies for the rally, told the crowd, "we are here today to say our policy is a wrong policy and it's opposed by the American people."

Salvador have been orchestrated by the

Reagan administration to justify its budget cuts and military spending," Weiss said Saturday.

The New York Democrat said President Ronald Reagan was violating U.S. law by sending military advisers to El Salvador, and said Congress is taking steps to prevent further United States military action in the small central American country. The Communist Workers Party, the Marxist-Lenin Party, and several other groups were represented in the crowd.

Violence stepped up in W. Germany

BONN, April 19 (Agencies) — Three concrete pipes placed on railroad tracks 25 miles southeast of Munich Saturday forced a night train to a halt in the fourth sabotage attempt on railways in Bavaria in the past few days, police officials said. Although there were no injuries and little damage in this latest attack, officials are not dismissing the possibility that the incident could be related to increasing terrorist activity throughout West Germany.

Last week trains traveling in Bavaria south of Munich were stopped when tree trunks blocked the tracks and unknown assailants tampered with overhead cables. Throughout West Germany, police and U.S. military installations beefed up security forces in anticipation of violence following the death Thursday of jailed terrorist Sigurd Debus, who died following a two-month hunger strike.

He and 26 other members of the Red Army Faction (RAF) and the June 2 Movement had refused to take food to draw attention to their demands for recognition as political prisoners and better conditions in West Ger-

Good Morning

By Jihad Al Khazan

When I read of a thief who lands himself in trouble through his own incompetence, I feel reassured. But I really worry when the incompetence of the officers of the law is exposed. From the reports I have been reading, the main question seems to be who is capable of more foolishness, the breakers of the law or its guardians.

First there was that genius of a mugger who, after the deed, forced his victim to drive him home (the home of the thief, that is.) After which, of course, even the police couldn't fail to go there and catch him, when the victim drove straight back to them with the news.

Then there was that thief who, not to leave fingerprints, took his shoes off and used his socks as gloves when he broke into a house. He was caught by the large, clear footprints he left, which was accepted as more than sufficient identifying evidence.

But, on the other hand, there's the police force of an American town which was told that a certain mentally disturbed gentleman had barricaded himself in his own home, and that he was threatening to shoot himself. A posse was dispatched right away, complete with bullhorns and carefully rehearsed arguments of dissuasion.

When they arrived at the shuttered up house, they laid the siege. They bellowed that they knew he was there and why not come out and stop all the nonsense, and isn't life beautiful, and what about the flowers in the Spring and the New England Fall, and would be like to hear Swan Lake on the bullhorn though they apologize in advance for the quality of the sound.

This went on for hours, with no answer from the house. A huge crowd had gathered, all adding their voices to those of the police trying to convince the man that life was worth living. Finally someone in the crowd looked around and shouted to everyone to shut up. For there in the middle of the crowd was that same man who was supposed to have been inside wondering whether To Be Or Not To Be. And he was one of the most vocal and ardent among them in pleading the cause of life.

Translated from Ashraq Al-Awsat

Qatar minister in Delhi

NEW DELHI, April 19 (AFP) — Qatar's Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ali Bin Ahmad Al-Ansari met his Indian counterpart N.D. Tiwari here Sunday and proposed an agreement between the two countries on employment of Indian workers in Qatar.



SADAT'S GUEST: Todd Zimmerman, 21, of Tamaqua, will take a two-week vacation this week from his job of waiting tables at an Allentown restaurant in Pennsylvania to visit Egypt on an invitation from President Anwar Sadat. Sadat extended the invitation after receiving a complimentary letter from Zimmerman last June.

Bobby Sands sinking

Irish youths fight running battles

THE 50TH DAY OF A HUNGER STRIKE IN BELFAST'S MAZON PRISON.

The 27-year-old Sands is fasting in support of demands that the British government treat jailed guerrillas as political prisoners. Sands is now within days of the time when previous IRA hunger strikers have died.

Meanwhile, police leaves were canceled throughout the province as thousands of Catholics prepared to march in six towns to commemorate the anniversary of the 1916 uprising against British rule in Dublin, capital of the neighboring Catholic Republic of Ireland.

Police said that soon after midnight youths set fire to a car in the center of Londonderry. Three policemen were slightly injured when youths stoned three police trucks and set one on fire. In a nearby street some 40 youths hurled gasoline bombs at police, who opened fire with plastic bullets, a police spokesman said. There were four arrests.

At Warrenpoint, in County Down, 40 families were evacuated from nearby homes late Saturday as demolition experts defused a bomb planted outside the police station, police said. Traditional Easter tension in this British province has been fueled by the deteriorating condition of jailed Irish Republican Army guerrilla Bobby Sands who is on

FURNISHED VILLA

FOR RENT

A two-story villa near the American embassy in Jeddah. The first story has a sitting room, dining room, living room, kitchen, bathroom and a store. The second story has a master bedroom with attached changing room and bathroom, two bedrooms with bathroom, servant room with bathroom. The garden contains a swimming pool with changing room, laundry room, and a room for the guard or driver with bathroom. The house is fully furnished and centrally air conditioned and has a telephone. It is available for immediate occupation.

Call Jeddah Telephone 6533643 Mr. Mahmoud Abu Bakr.